

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Work of the UTM

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1. The UTM (Unirea Tineretului Muncitoresc) is in charge of all youth activity in Rumania, despite the fact that most young people are not members of this organization. There is, however, every inducement to join, for, in schools, factories, and shipyards, the Utemists are always favored. UTM activity reaches into all aspects of Rumanian life.
2. The UTM has now extended its activities to include the army, working especially among groups of young recruits. Those who are already Utemists when they reach the recruit depot are expected to aid their comrades in the army, in other words, to train them in Communist ideology. This amounts, in practice, to condemning the Western Powers and denouncing any of their associates who are not cooperative in observing party decisions.
3. The Utemists are particularly encouraged to work on the peasant masses. The reason is that peasant boys reach the army without having had adequate political instruction. Most of them are passive reactionaries. During the elections of 20 Dec 53, for example, the Utemists worked hard in military units, especially on Sundays, in an effort to get the troops ready for the elections. In some centers there was an agitation point for every hundred soldiers.
4. In the cultural domain, the Utemists use every possible method for producing a new mentality. What they want is an attitude opposed to nationalism. Every aspect of young people's life is analyzed. Every aspect of working hours is so controlled as to bring it into the Marxist-Leninist line. Workers are expected to read "Scanteia," "Munca," and "Scanteia Tineretului" (Spark of Youth); then

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comment on them on the Party line; and finally to sell them.

5. Wall newspapers are written by the Utemists themselves. These papers, called "Hitor de Parete" fall into several categories:
 - a. Some are devoted to important days in party history, such as 25 Aug, 7 Nov, 40 Dec, 1 May, etc.
 - b. Another is the Bulletin of ARLUS (Association for Links with the Union of the Soviets).
 - c. Bulletin of Utemist activity
 - d. Bulletin of domestic and foreign policy
 - e. Bulletin of labor and production
 - f. Sports bulletin
6. The Utemists take charge of the Coltul Rogu (Red Corner). This includes circles for propagandist study of socialism, Communism, social classes, the Church (which, of course, is opposed). There are also literary circles, which study Soviet literature, either in translation or in Russian. For a teacher, to be a Utemist opens all doors. On the other hand, a teacher expelled from UTM cannot get a job in any school, primary or higher.
7. The Communists give great attention to sports and the physical education of the young. This is considered a part both of labor and of the defense of the fatherland. The Utemists arrange big excursions, lasting two days, to the mountains, or the sea. These cost little, since the larger part of the expenses is defrayed by the Labor Confederation or by some regional organization. During these trips there is much propaganda work, in which young people take part.
8. The UTM also manages mobilization of young people for voluntary labor. This helps with public utilities, putting up decorations on holidays, etc. UTM also seizes the occasion to do a little propaganda, when the masses are mobilized for some special purpose.

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